

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STOCKH 03833 091938Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 VO-03 CA-01 PM-05 NSC-05
SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01
USIA-06 PRS-01 SAB-02 /071 W
-----035755 100551Z /12

R 091509Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1641
INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY PANAMA
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS, SW, PN
SUBJECT: FUNERAL OF LEOPOLDO ARAGON ESCALONA; PRESS PUBLISHES
WIDOW'S CLAIM THAT SUICIDE VENT OF VISA REFUSAL

1. FUNERAL CEREMONIES WERE HELD IN STOCKHOLM ON SEPTEMBER 7 FOR LEOPOLDO ARAGON ESCALONA, EXILED PANAMANIAN OPPONENT OF THE PANAMA CANAL TREATIES WHO COMMITTED SUICIDE THROUGH SELF-IMMOLATION AT THE EMBASSY ON SEPTEMBER 1. A QUIET GROUP OF ABOUT 25 FRIENDS ACCOMPANIED THE BODY TO A LOCAL CREMATORIUM. SAME UNIDENTIFIED GROUP LATER MARCHED TO EMBASSY WHERE A BRIEF CEREMONY WAS HELD WHICH INCLUDED THE PLAYING OF THE PANAMANIAN NATIONAL ANTHEM AND LAYING OF FLOWERS ON SPOT WHERE ARAGON FELL. DEMONSTRATION LATER DISBANDED QUICKLY AND QUIETLY.

2. STOCKHOLM PRESS CARRIED BRIEF ARTICLE SEPTEMBER 9 ON STATEMENTS MADE BY MRS. ARAGON IN WASHINGTON ON SEPTEMBER 7 TO EFFECT THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT WAS

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PAGE 02 STOCKH 03833 091938Z

RESPONSIBLE FOR ARAGON'S DEATH SINCE HE MADE THE DECISION TO SACRIFICE HIMSELF AFTER FAILING TO GET A VISA TO ENTER THE US TO CARRY ON HIS CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE TREATIES. ARTICLE NOTES THAT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN ON SEPTEMBER 7 HAD INFORMED PRESS THAT ARAGON HAD BEEN REFUSED VISA BECAUSE OF ASSOCIATION WITH COMMUNIST ORGANIZATIONS, BUT THAT REFUSAL WAS

UNDER RECONSIDERATION AT THE TIME OF HIS DEATH.
PERRY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, AGREEMENTS, PRESS COMMENTS, VISAS, DEATHS, CANALS, TRAVEL CONTROLS, ENTRY VISAS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Film Number: D770328-0440
Format: TEL
From: STOCKHOLM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770979/aaaaconm.tel
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Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: dcfe0d49-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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